



USAID
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AFGHANISTAN

ROAD UPDATE

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Kandahar-Herat Highway

The Kandahar-Herat Highway connects the southern and western parts of Afghanistan. This 557 km stretch of highway is part of the “Ring Road”, which interlinks the main cities of Kabul, Kandahar, and Herat. USAID is funding 326 km of the Kandahar-Herat Highway, while Saudi Arabia and Japan are each responsible for a 116 km section. The Afghanistan Ministry of Public Works signed a contract for the Saudi-funded section and the contractor is mobilizing.

Along the US portion, all de-mining operations were halted in early June due to security concerns, but construction was not delayed; de-mining efforts resumed in late July. In **Section 3** (Km 231-356), 32% of the first layer of asphalt has laid paved along with 24% of the second layer. In **Section 4** (4A Km 356-406, 4B Km 406-456), production of pre-cast pipe and bridge materials continues on 4A; on 4B culvert works and laying of crushed aggregate base (CAB) is nearly complete. Asphalt treated base (ATB) course is 98% complete, and 91% of the second layer of asphalt has been laid. In **Section 5** (Km 456-557), production of pre-cast pipe and bridge materials continues alongside excavation and embankment work. 30% of the CAB course is now complete, along with 10% of the first layer of asphalt (ATB).

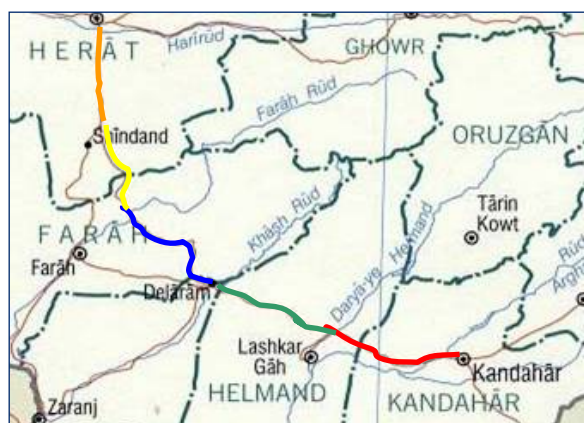
USAID incorporates capacity-building, a principal component of development and reconstruction assistance, into road reconstruction efforts in order to increase the participation and commitment of Afghans. During this period, 75% of the project’s employees were Afghan nationals.



Afghan masons placing stonework for culvert on Section 4.



Placing asphalt base course on Section 5.



Kandahar-Herat Highway Sections

- Japanese Section
- Saudi Section
- US Section 3
- US Section 4
- US Section 5



Driving piling foundation at Bridge 2, Section 3.

Guide for the Non-Road Engineers: Construction Flow



Provincial Roads Highlights

Security continues to delay progress on several provincial road projects.

Provincial Road	Progress to date
Kabul-Gardez Road (122km)	Asphalt treated base (ATB) work is complete from Km 8 to Km 13. Asphalt wearing course overlay is complete from Km 45 to Km 33 and from Km 71 to Km 86.
Pul-e Alam to Ring Road (35km)	Earthworks on-going from Km 0 to Km 21 and Km to Km 32. Subgrade and subbase work on-going from Km 0 to Km 14.
Jalalabad-Asmar Road (122km)	Work commenced on sub-base final trim from Km 15 to Km 14 and along parts of Km 8. Due to river flooding, large scouring of the road embankment has occurred near Km 36.
Kandahar-Tirin Kot Road (148km)	Staff is starting to move up to Tirin Kot to begin work on the Northern Section.
Panjsher Road (69.2km)	The contractor commenced work for Km 19 – Km 70. There are delays in the contractor mobilizing staff.
Urban Roads	A meeting with the Kabul Municipality was held July 11 to discuss a preliminary strategy for obtaining right-of-way for Phase 2. Pavement is ongoing. On July 16, a 50% Design Review and Audit was undertaken, and the results were found to be satisfactory.
Sheberghan to Sari Pul Road (54km)	Subgrade preparation and embankment is complete from Km 1 to Km 32 with embankment 60% complete from Km 36 to Km 53. A total of 26 out of 51 culverts have been completed.
Farah-Ring Road (70km)	Road is rough graded for 24.5 kilometers and compacted from Km 44+000 to Km 68+500. Erection of prefabricated camp buildings is ongoing. Topographical survey has commenced.
Lashkar Gah-Ring Road (49km)	Rough grading commenced at Km 43 on July 5, working towards Km 0. Three teams have begun work at various locations along the project. One bull dozer and one soil compactor for rough grading arrived at the site.
Ghazni-Sharan Road (57.5km)	The security situation has delayed camp construction work and led to a decrease in workers. Demining continues on 32.5 kilometers towards Sharan City, and around the camp for extra security measures. Crushing of base course is under way using the existing Cukurova crusher at Km 10 of the Ghazni Gardez Project. This material will be used for the Ghazni end of the project.



Asphalt treated base works at Km 45 of Kabul-Gardez Road.



Cutting the right hand side layer of ATB and base course, on the Kabul – Gardez Road at Km 48.



Performing ATB work on Kabul – Gardez Road at Km 48.

Road-Related Security Incidents

There was an IED explosion just off the Jalalabad Road in Kabul on July 25. A UN vehicle was in the area and possibly damaged. One local person and two Afghan National Police were injured. There were no fatalities.

Indicator Hostile Attacks)	This Reporting Period	Cumulative Total FY05
Persons Kidnapped/ Released	0/0	3/2
Persons Injured/Killed	3/0	20/9
Other Hostile Attacks	1	35